

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 24-26, 30, and 34-42 will have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections of all the claims pending in the present application. Such action is respectfully requested and is now believed to be appropriate and proper.

By the present response, Applicants will have canceled all of the rejected claims, allowing only indicated to be allowable claims to remain in the application. Accordingly, at least in accordance with the Examiner's previously set forth indication of allowability, all the claims in the present application are now submitted to be allowable and an action to such effect is respectfully requested, in due course.

Applicants note that the Notice of Panel Decision from the Pre-Appeal Brief Review indicated that at least one actual issue for appeal remains. In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that at least for the reasons set forth in the Request for Review, filed on February 26, 2007, all of the claims in the present application then pending are clearly patentable over the FEDER reference relied upon by the Examiner. Accordingly, the herein contained cancellation of claims 24 through 26, 30 and 34 through 42, is not in any manner to be considered as an acquiescence in the propriety of the Examiner's rejection or in the propriety the Examiner's interpretation of the disclosure of the reference or of his interpretation of the claim limitations.

In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that FEDER contains a disclosure that is neither adequate nor sufficient to either anticipate or even to render unpatentable the combination of features recited in Applicants then pending claims.

Applicants would like to respectfully make of record a telephone interview conducted between their undersigned representative and Examiner Park, who is in charge of the present

application. The above noted interview was conducted in the present application on August 16, 2007.

During the above noted review, which was initiated by Examiner Park, Applicants' undersigned representative and the Examiner discussed various aspects of the present invention and during the above noted interview, the Examiner informed Applicants' representative regarding several additional documents of which he was aware and which he believed were relevant to the rejected claims in the present application. Applicants thus respectfully request that the Examiner complete the record of the present application by citing each of the documents discussed during the above noted interview on a PTO-892 form and to attach such form to the next Official Action in the present application.

As noted above, and in view of the cancellation of all of the rejected claims, the outstanding rejection has been rendered moot. As additionally noted above, the cancellation of the rejected claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter and is made only in order to expedite the issuance of the present application with indicated to be allowable subject matter. Additionally, Applicants expressly reserve the right to submit claims corresponding in scope to the cancelled claims in another application.

In view of all of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the outstanding rejection, together with an indication of the allowability of all the claims remaining pending in the present application, in due course.

Entry of the present amendment is submitted to be proper since it clearly places the present application into condition for allowance and raises no new issues requiring further consideration or search (37 C.F.R. § 1.116).

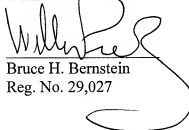
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so. Applicants have canceled all of the rejected claims without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter. Applicants have expressly not acquiesced in the propriety of the Examiner's rejection. Applicants have, based on the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, merely chosen to expedite the issuance of the present application.

Any changes to the claims which have been made in this reply, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this Response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Yoshihiro Iida et al.



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

William Pieprz
Reg. No. 33,630

September 6, 2007
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191